

ALL

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MEMORANDUM FOR: All OCA Colleagues

FROM: Dave Gries ☐

STAT

SUBJECT: Attached

Using the attached outline, I recently gave a talk to a group of intelligence officers. The outline represents my sense of the job that faces us, the problems that challenge us and the goals, strategies and tactics that by working together we have developed, refined and tried to implement. I thought you might want to review the outline and if you wish, send me your comments.

Attachment

Distribution:

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D/OCA:DDG:mdo (30 Oct 1986)

Congress and Intelligence

Scope of congressional relations

- number of OCA briefings, hearings, contacts
- DCI, DDCI Community level involvement
- publications sent to Congress

Early beginnings

- Secret Committee established by the Second Continental Congress, 18 September 1775
- Committee of Secret Correspondence established by the same Congress, 29 November 1775

Our exposure in Congress

- key committees
- 26% of all Senators and 5% of all Representatives have served on our committees
- rotation system

Functions of the Oversight Committees

- authorize the budget
- assess findings, cost effectiveness, quality
- propose legislation

Major problem areas

- appetite for information
- covert action
- political realities facing Members
- micromanagement and hobbyhorses

Understanding Congress

- Congress is reactive, does little planning
- politics is intensely personal
- Congress is not hierarchical
- Congress is entrepreneurial
- work is accomplished through coalitions or networks

Our goals in dealing with Congress

--create a climate for oversight that is discreet,
business-like and responsible

--confine oversight to the four designated committees

--develop a constituency for intelligence throughout
the Congress

Our strategy

--sell intelligence

--promote our legislative and oversight interests
aggressively

--be responsive but keep our hands on our wallet

Our Tactics

--gardening (sow, cultivate, harvest)

--firefighting (react to the alarm, get to the scene,
call in the right equipment)

--monitoring (send out scouts, consult with key
players, take the trivial seriously)